



# L. A. B.



## LEARNING ABOUT BELGIUM

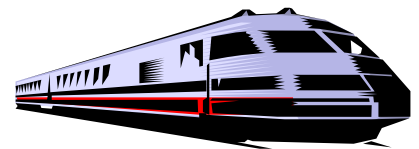
*[Since 1991]*

*Laurie A. Bach, Program Director*

L.A.B. is a **FREE 3** half-day program open to **ALL SHAPE & PfP** personnel & their family members, designed to assist them during their settling-in process at the beginning of their new life at the cross-roads of Europe.

*BECOME AN EXPERT ON YOUR NEW HOST COUNTRY !*

*MEET OTHER NEWCOMERS !*



### NEXT CLASS

Monday	26 April	0900-1300
Tuesday	27 April	0900-1300
<b>Thursday</b>	<b>29 April</b>	<b>0900-1300</b>

**International Community (IC) Club**



**CALL:** on Military Phone: **ext. 4269**  
on Civilian Phone: **(065) 44.4269**

*[To Reserve Your Place!]*

## **"LEARNING ABOUT BELGIUM"**

Welcome to Shape! If you have recently joined SHAPE or are still just trying to figure it all out, then you won't want to miss the newcomers' orientation program called "**Learning About Belgium**" (**L.A.B.**). The program is **FREE**, open to **All** SHAPE & PfP personnel **AND** their adult family members, takes 3 **half days** (attendance on all three days not mandatory but highly recommended) and at the end you will be well prepared to start living in and exploring this very interesting & diverse country.

### **First Morning**

The day begins with refreshments & introductions, then proceeds with the "**Background of Belgium**": its history, geography, currency, monarchy, languages, religions, politics... After a break comes "Where to Get Information" which covers magazines, newcomers' guides, websites, cable television, radio & etc. The morning ends with a practical discussion of bill paying, utility prices, dealing with landlords & taxes.

### **Second Morning**

The entire morning is taken up with a "**Field Trip into Mons**" (transportation provided) to explain and/or use: the public transport system, parking machines, bank & proton cards, telephones...The morning will also include a coffee break at a typical café on the Grand Place to discuss social customs, tipping, everyday shopping and "eating out"! There will also be a quick visit to the St. Waudru Collegiale & you'll get the chance to drive by the 2 major hospitals in town.

### **Third Morning**

The process of "adapting to a new culture" starts off the day's discussion. Next comes a review of the different types of household products and food that are available here, a look at medical cultural practices & local communal laws, and hints for daily living. To conclude the course, the Mayor of Mons invites the class to the Town Hall for a quick visit and a **champagne reception**. Course certificates are also presented at this time.

Interested? Then call Shape extension **4269** or on a civilian telephone call (065) 44.4269 to reserve your place!